

NOTES AND EXHIBITS.

Mr. Froggatt exhibited specimens of *Oligotoma gurneyi*, Froggatt (Fam. *Embiidae*), together with one of the webs which they fabricate, received from Mr. Thomas Steel; the species was described in last year's Proceedings from the study of a single individual taken at light; since that time the insects had been found in great numbers in the Colonial Sugar Company's Refinery at Pymont, the presence of the webs giving the walls the appearance of being coated with mould. Also pupæ of one of the common Sydney bulldog ants (*Myrmecia pyriformis*, Sm.), cut out of the pupal cocoons; and exhibited to show the curious spiny structures present on the body, but which are absent in the imago.

Dr. Greig Smith exhibited samples of gum, and cultures in illustration of his papers.

Mr. Alex. G. Hamilton sent for exhibition a very regular concretion (calcareous) presenting considerable resemblance to an obsidianite, from the Moore River, N. W. Australia.

Mr. Steel read the following Note on *Zea mays*, Linn. :—"At a meeting of the Society last year, Mr. Fred. Turner exhibited specimens of abnormal cobs of this plant, in which the sheaths were not developed, the cobs being situated in the midst of the male inflorescence.* It seemed to me that it would be of interest to endeavour to grow plants from these cobs, and, through the courtesy of Mr. Turner, I was able to do so. A number of the seeds which I planted in my garden germinated and grew into healthy plants 6 or 7 feet in height which were in all respects normal, the relative positions of the male and female inflorescences being as usual. The cobs were, like the parent ones, somewhat small in size, the seed-heads being about 6 inches in length."

* Proc. Linn. Soc. N. S. Wales, xxix. p.129.